

Activity Summary

Appropriation: National Recreation and Preservation
Activity: Recreation Programs

Activity	2002 Enacted	FY 2003			Change From 2002 (+/-)
		Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Recreation Programs	549	+3	0	552	+3
Total Requirements	549	+3	0	552	+3

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 4601 - 4601-3 The Outdoor Recreation Organic Act
 16 U.S.C. 4601-6a (h) The Land and Water Conservation Act, as amended
 40 U.S.C. 484 (o) The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, as amended

Overview

Recreation Programs cover a range of planning, Federal coordination, and technical assistance activities. The principal activities are the Federal Lands to Parks Program, which assists State and local governments in acquiring surplus Federal real property for public parks and recreation areas, and nationwide recreation information, statistics, and coordination.

Applicable National Park Service Mission Goals

- IIIb** Through partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.
- IIIc** Assisted through Federal funds and programs, the protection of recreational opportunities is achieved through formal mechanisms to ensure continued access for public recreation use.

Activity: Recreation Programs
FY2002 Enacted: \$0.549 million

FY 2002 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

The Federal Lands to Parks Program (FLP) places a priority on helping communities obtain Federal properties which have been declared surplus (that is, no longer needed by the Federal Government) for public parks and recreation use. In partnership with State and local agencies, the FLP results in new and expanded State and community parks, increased close-to-home recreation, and protected open space and important natural and cultural resources. A great variety of land may be available from any agency of the Federal Government, including military bases, U.S. Coast Guard stations, and Army Corps of Engineers water control projects. The land may be located in rural or urban areas, consist of open space, forests, wetlands, lakes, or shorelines; the land may contain existing historic and recreation facilities. In addition, communities may convert and restore non-recreational property to meet community open space or recreational needs.

The NPS recommendations and land transfers are based on an assessment of the community's need for the property, capability of the applicant, suitability of the property for the intended use, and a plan for the proposed park use and/or development. Because recreational use does not have priority in Federal property disposal, the Service plays an important role in helping States and communities compete among other potential interests by

communicating their needs and demonstrating the importance of ensuring long-term protection of and public access to resources.

The Federal Lands to Parks Program is the only Federal program for State or local agencies to acquire surplus Federal land for dedicated public recreation instead of paying fair market value. Once transferred, the land is protected for public park and recreation use in perpetuity for current and future generations. As a result, the program creates new State and local parks, provides public recreation services, conserves natural and historic resources, and contributes to community revitalization. In addition to benefiting communities, the Federal Lands to Parks Program helps the Federal Government reduce its unneeded inventory of Federal land and facilities as well as management costs for those properties.

The National Park Service works with numerous partners and agencies to help convert surplus Federal land to public parks and recreation areas. Through the assistance of State and local governments, the NPS seeks communities that are interested in using the surplus land for park and recreation use and then aids communities in filing their application. The NPS acts as broker between the applicant and the Federal disposing agency (typically the General Services Administration, or military departments). The NPS approves the community's application, recommends the property transfer, prepares the deed, and conveys any restrictions associated with the deed.

After transferring the deed, the Park Service helps ensure continued public access to the properties for recreational use and protection of the properties' natural and cultural resources through site visits, follow-up contacts, technical assistance to communities, and deed and/or use agreement revisions as needed or requested. Federal Lands to Parks' acres are counted as preserved when property deeds are signed.

At A Glance...

- Since the program's inception in 1949, 1,375 properties have been deeded, accounting for over 150,000 acres.
- In FY 2001, 21 properties were deeded (1,193 acres) in 14 states.

Performance Goals

Goal IIIb1. Protect conservation areas and provide recreational opportunities through assistance to state and local government and nonprofit groups

Target	Measure	Goals	
		Annual FY 2003	Long-term FY 2005
National recreation and preservation areas	Added to NPS since 1997		
	Miles of trail	7,400	8,400
	Miles of river corridor	4,600	6,600
	Acres of park and open space	876,900	1,113,300

Goal IIIb2. Partner with communities to provide additional recreational opportunities and protect resources

Target	Measure	Goals	
		Annual FY 2003	Long-term FY 2005
Community recreation opportunities and resource protection	Percent of communities satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreation and conservation benefits on land and waters	94.4%	95.0%

Goal IIIc1. Partner with communities to protect, conserve, and/or rehabilitate public recreation lands and facilities

Target	Measure	Goals						
		FY 2000 Base	Annual FY 2003			Long-term FY 2005		
			Number	Increase	% Properties Protected	Number	Increase	% Properties Protected
Community recreation opportunities and resource conservation	Recreational properties assisted and protected by NPS programs*	32,738	35,542	8.6%	100%	38,656	18.1%	100%

*Includes the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, and Federal Lands to Parks Program.

Federal Lands to Parks Workload Factors

Workload Factors	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Estimate
Percent of communities served satisfied with Federal Lands to Parks assistance (IIb2)	90.3%	N/A ¹	>92%
Number of acres (number of properties) transferred for state and local parks and recreation (IIb1)	2,207 (24 properties)	1193 (21 properties)	500
Number of ongoing recreation properties protected through Federal Lands to Parks assistance (IIIc1)	921	943	953

¹ Customer surveys are scheduled at 2-year intervals; no data collected in FY 2001.

Justification Of Total FY 2003 Budget Request For Recreation Programs

Request Component	Amount
FY 2002 Budget Request	549
Programmatic Changes	No Change
TOTAL, Program Changes	0
Uncontrollable changes	3
FY 2003 Budget Request	552
Net change	+3